

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714 744 P Street
P.O. Box 942732
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320
(916) 657-2941



February 29, 1996

Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch Information Letter No. I-96-03

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons

QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARY (QMB) OUTREACH

Ref.: All County Welfare Directors Letter No. 92-20

This is to request counties for an update of their QMB and Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) contact and telephone number.

Persons interested in these programs may contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) toll-free line as specified in the enclosed brochure. If they request an application or more specific information, the operator may refer the party to your county contact person as shown on the enclosed list.

SSA has informed us that some of the telephone numbers and contacts are now incorrect. Please check the enclosed county contact list and make any corrections. You may contact Marge Buzdas of my staff at (916) 657-0726 or send a FAX to (916) 657-3224.

If we do not hear from you, we will assume that the current county contact person and/or telephone number and address are correct.

The 1996 federal poverty level will be sent to counties sometime in March with an effective date of April 1, 1996. The 1996 QMB/SLMB brochure should be updated by the Health Care Financing Administration at that time.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosures

**QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARY (QMB)/ SPECIFIED
LOW-INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARY (SLMB) CONTACT LIST**

01	ALAMEDA COUNTY Social Services Agency Pat Jenkins 24041 Amador Street Hayward, CA 94545 (510) 670-6261	08	DEL NORTE COUNTY Welfare Department Teri Husberg 981 H Street Crescent City, CA 95531 (707) 464-3191
02	ALPINE COUNTY Dept. of Social Services Lorraine Lake P. O. Box 277 14810 Highway 89 Markleeville, CA 96120 (916) 694-2235	09	EL DORADO COUNTY Department of Social Services Mary Peterson 2929 Grandview Street P. O. Box 1637 Placerville, CA 95667 (916) 621-6376
03	AMADOR COUNTY Dept. of Social Services Emily Daniel 125 Academy Drive Sutter Creek, CA 95685 (209) 223-6550	10	FRESNO COUNTY Dept. of Social Services Johnnie Belford (209) 453-4779 or Gayle DeLateur (209) 453-6469 4449 E. Kings Canyon P.O. Box 1912 Fresno, CA 93750
04	BUTTE COUNTY Dept. of Social Welfare Brenda Pilgram 42 County Center Drive P.O. Box 1649 Oroville, CA 95965 (916) 538-2071	11	GLENN COUNTY Human Resources Agency Patti Blakeman 420 E. Laurel Street P.O. Box 611 Willows, CA 95988 (916) 934-6514
05	CALAVARAS COUNTY Welfare Department Connie McLain Govt. Center, Mtn. Ranch Rd. San Andreas, CA 95249 (209) 754-6444	12	HUMBOLDT COUNTY Dept. of Social Services Mary McCutcheon 929 Koster Street Eureka, CA 95501 (707) 445-6026
06	COLUSA COUNTY Dept. of Social Welfare Nancy Montgomery 251 E. Webster P. O. Box 370 Colusa, CA 95932 (916) 458-4985	13	IMPERIAL COUNTY Department of Social Services Carolina Fernandez P. O. Box 930 El Centro, CA 92244 (619) 337-7436
07	CONTRA COSTA Social Services Dept. Sandy Baldwin 40 Douglas Drive Martinez, CA 94553 (510) 313-1621	14	INYO COUNTY Dept. of Social Services Darlene Landis 162A Grove Street Bishop, CA 93514 (619) 872-1394

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| 15 | <p>KERN COUNTY
 Dept. of Human Services
 Karyn Bostick
 100 E. California Ave.
 Bakersfield, CA 93307
 (805) 631-6186</p> | 22 | <p>MARIPOSA COUNTY
 Debbie Smith
 Dept. of Human Services
 Social Services Division
 5186 Highway 49 North
 P. O. Box 7
 Mariposa, CA 95338
 (209) 966-3609</p> |
| 16 | <p>KINGS COUNTY
 Human Services Agency
 Kim McCord
 1200 South Drive
 Hanford, CA 93230
 (209) 582-3241 Ext. 2217</p> | 23 | <p>MENDOCINO COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Services
 Nancy Naumann
 747 South State Street
 P. O. Box 1060
 Ukiah, CA 95482
 (707) 463-2437 Ext. 173</p> |
| 17 | <p>LAKE COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Services
 Fayanna Scheiberl
 1220 Martin Street
 P.O. Box 190
 Lakeport, CA 95453
 (707) 262-3200</p> | 24 | <p>MERCED COUNTY
 Human Services Agency
 Edith Rodriquez
 P. O. 112
 Merced, CA 95641
 (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5496</p> |
| 18 | <p>LASSEN COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Welfare
 Nellie Guinn
 720 Richmond Road
 P. O. Box 1359
 Susanville, CA 96130
 (916) 257-8311 Ext. 157</p> | 25 | <p>MODOC COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Services
 Pat Wood
 120 North Main Street
 Alturas, CA 96101
 (916) 233-6501</p> |
| 19 | <p>LOS ANGELES COUNTY
 Dept. of Public Social Services
 General Information Number
 P. O. Box 2151
 Bassett, CA 91731
 (310) 908-8333</p> | 26 | <p>MONO COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Welfare
 Frances Thompson
 P.O. Box 576
 Bridgeport, CA 93517
 (619) 932-7291</p> |
| 20 | <p>MADERA COUNTY
 Dept. of Public Welfare
 Pamela Hansen
 720 E. Yosemite
 P. O. Box 569
 Madera, CA 93638
 (209) 675-2364</p> | 27 | <p>MONTEREY COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Services
 General Information Number
 1000 S. Main Street, Suite 216
 Salinas, CA 93901
 (408) 755-8500</p> |
| 21 | <p>MARIN COUNTY
 Dept. of Health & Human Services
 Jenny Santellan
 3501 Civic Center Branch
 P. O. 4160
 San Rafael, CA 94913
 (415) 499-7089</p> | 28 | <p>NAPA COUNTY
 Dept. of Social Services
 Beverly Peterson
 2344 Old Sonoma Road
 P. O. Box 329
 Napa, CA 94559-0329
 (707) 253-4379</p> |

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| 29 | NEVADA COUNTY
Dept. of Public Social Services
Cynthia Bryan
950 Maidu Ave
P. O. Box 1210
Nevada City, CA 95959
(916) 265-1340 | 37 | SAN DIEGO COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
QMB Specialist
7947 Mission Center Court
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 531-6293 |
| 30 | ORANGE COUNTY
Social Services Agency
Medi-Cal Officer of the Day
1055 North Main Street, Room 600
Santa Ana, CA 92701
(714) 939-4000 541-7700 | 38 | SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY
General Information Number
Dept. of Social Services
P. O. Box 7988
San Francisco, CA 94120
(415) 557-6050 |
| 31 | PLACER COUNTY
County Welfare Dept.
General Information Number
11519 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603
(916) 889-7610 | 39 | SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
Dept. of Public Assistance
Judy Pelcher
333 E. Washington
P. O. Box 201056
Stockton, CA 95201
(209) 468-1453 |
| 32 | PLUMAS COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Carol Roberts
270 County Hospital Road
P. O. Box 360
Quincy, CA 95971
(916) 283-6350 | 40 | SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Michelle Stoutenborough
3220 S. Higuera Street
P. O. Box 8119
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-8119
(805) 781-1639 |
| 33 | RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Dept. of Public Social Services
Gloria Moore
3950 Reynolds Road
P.O. Box 7789
Riverside, CA 92503
(909) 358-3262 | 41 | SAN MATEO COUNTY
Human Services Agency
Robert Fucilla
200 Harbor Blvd., Bldg. C
Belmont, CA 94002
(415) 595-7570 |
| 34 | SACRAMENTO COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Kathy Seattris--A920
1725 28th Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 732-9376 | 42 | SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Allegra Shiner
234 Camino Del Remedio
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
(805) 346-7103 |
| 35 | SAN BENITO COUNTY
Human Services Agency
Alma Villasana
380 San Benito Street
Hollister, CA 95023
(408) 637-5336 | 43 | SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Social Services Agency
Eva Bouleware
1725 Technology Drive
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 441-5590 |
| 36 | SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
Dept. of Public Social Services
General Information Number
468 W. 5th Street, 2nd Floor, #420
San Bernardino, CA 92401
Call local Dept. of Social Services | | |

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| 44 | <p>SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Human Resources Agency
Nan Toy
1020 Emeline Street
P. O. Box 1320
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(408) 454-4143</p> | 51 | <p>SUTTER COUNTY
Welfare & Social Services
Mary Sullivan
190 Garden Highway
P. O. Box 1535
Yuba City, CA 95992-1535
(916) 741-7230</p> |
| 45 | <p>SHASTA COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Phyllis Trammel
2460 Breslauer Way
P. O. Box 496005
Redding, CA 96049
(916) 225-5596</p> | 52 | <p>TEHAMA COUNTY
Dept. of Social Welfare
Bonnie Davis
1135 Lincoln
P. O. Box 1515
Red Bluff, CA 96080
(916) 527-1911</p> |
| 46 | <p>SIERRA COUNTY
Human Services
Lori Wright
195 Front Street
P. O. Box 1019
Loyalton, CA 96118
(916) 993-6720</p> | 53 | <p>TRINITY COUNTY
Dept. of Health & Human Svcs.
Joni McFarren
#1 Industrial Park Way
Weaverville, CA 96093
(916) 623-1266</p> |
| 47 | <p>SISKIYOU COUNTY
Welfare Department
Nadine Della Bitta
Court House, Room #4
311 4th Street
Yreka, CA 96097
(916) 842-4471</p> | 54 | <p>TULARE COUNTY
Dept. of Public Social Services
General Information Numbers
100 East Center, P. O. Box 671
Visalia, CA 93279
(209) 733-6000</p> <p>75 West Olive Avenue
P.O. Box 1269
Porterville
(209) 782-4750</p> <p>458 East O'Neal Ave., P.O. Box 1375
Tulare, CA 93275
(209) 685-2600</p> <p>148 South L Street, P.O. Box 985
Dinuba, Ca 93618
(209) 591-5804</p> <p>900 North Sequoia
P.O. Box 670
Lindsay, CA 93247
(209) 562-1377</p> |
| 48 | <p>SOLANO COUNTY
Public Welfare Dept.
For Vallejo & Benica:
355 Tuolumne Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
(707) 553-5359</p> <p>For all other cities:
1745 Enterprise Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 421-7700</p> | 55 | <p>TUOLUMNE COUNTY
County Welfare Department
Robert Maige
20075 Cedar Road North
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 533-5746</p> |
| 49 | <p>SONOMA COUNTY
Social Services Dept.
George Alberigi
2550 Paulin Drive
P. O. Box 1539
Santa Rosa, CA 95402
(707) 527-2139</p> | | |
| 50 | <p>STANISLAUS COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Barbara Aja
P. O. Box 42
Modesto, CA 95353
(209) 558-2690</p> | | |

- 56 VENTURA COUNTY
Public Social Services Agency
General Information Number
1400 Vanguard Drive, Second Floor
Oxnard, CA 93033
(805) 385-8587
- 57 YOLO COUNTY
Dept. of Social Services
Lyn Lawson
922 Sacramento Avenue
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 372-2000 Ext. 9708
- 58 YUBA COUNTY
County Welfare Department
General Information Number
6000 Lindhurst Avenue, #504
P. O. Box 2320
Marysville, CA 95901
(916) 741-6311

Where Do I Apply?

If you already have Medicare Part A and think you qualify for either **QMB** or **SLMB** assistance, you must file an application for Medicaid at a State, county, or local medical assistance office—not a Federal office. You can get the telephone number for your medical assistance office by calling **1-800-638-6833**.

Give the operator the name of your State and county. Explain that you want the telephone number for the nearest office that can help you file for assistance under either the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary or Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary program.

What If I'm Not Covered By Medicare Part A?

If you are age 65 or older and think you qualify for this assistance but do not have Medicare Part A, you should first contact a Social Security Administration office. You may need to file an application for Part A. The telephone number and address for the nearest Social Security Administration office can be found in the telephone book. If you need help in getting this information, call **1-800-772-1213**.

What Do I Ask For?

When you contact your medical assistance office, ask about the **QMB** or **SLMB** program or the "Medicare Buy-In" program. Explain that you think you qualify for help in paying your Medicare costs and you want to know when and where you can file an application for Medicaid.

What Should I Bring With Me?

When you file an application for Medicaid, be prepared to answer questions about your income, property you own, and other assets. You will be expected to have copies of documents like bank statements, property deeds, and insurance policies that show the amount of cash you have and the value of things you own.

Verification of your enrollment in Medicare Part A and of your income and assets will be important in determining your eligibility for assistance. As your application is processed, you may be required to go through a face-to-face interview with a Medicaid caseworker.

If Your Application Is Denied

If your application for assistance under either the **QMB** or **SLMB** program is denied, you have a right to appeal within 30 days of the denial. You file an appeal at the place you filed your Medicaid application. You are guaranteed a hearing.

If you need assistance or advice, you may want to contact your State agency on aging. Assistance also may be available from the Legal Aid or Legal Services office in your State. These offices provide free legal services to people whose incomes are within certain guidelines.

The telephone numbers for all State offices can be found in the telephone directory under "State Government."

For More Information About Medicare

For more information about the Medicare program, please refer to *The Medicare Handbook*. Copies are available from any Social Security Administration office.

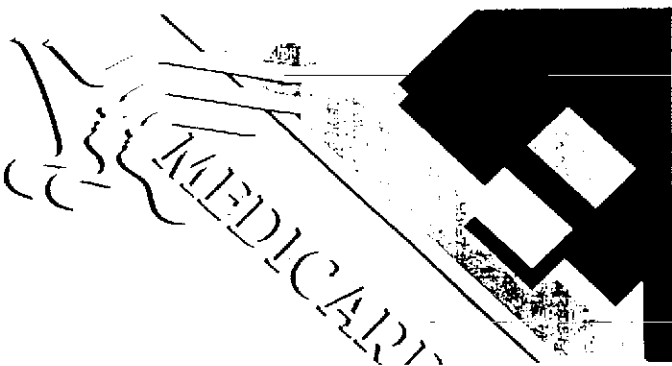


SSA
Social Security Administration

Health Care Financing Administration
6325 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21207-5187

United Business
Form for People 100
Publication No. HCFA 0214
Revised March 1995

Help in Paying Medicare Expenses
Available to Some Low-Income Persons



Medicare Savings For You

If you are elderly and poor, or disabled and poor and eligible for Medicare, your State **may** pay some or all of your Medicare expenses.

Federal law requires that State Medicaid programs pay Medicare costs for **certain** elderly and disabled persons with low incomes and very limited assets. What this means is that, depending on your income and the value of things you own, you will not have to pay as much money out of your own pocket for hospital, physician and other services covered by Medicare. You could save hundreds if not thousands of dollars each year.

Two Programs Offer Help

There are two programs to help people pay their Medicare expenses. One is called the "Qualified Medicare Beneficiary" or "**QMB**" program. The other is called the "Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary" or "**SLMB**" program.

The **QMB** program is for persons with limited resources whose incomes are at or below the national poverty level. It covers the costs of the Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductibles that Medicare beneficiaries normally

pay out of their own pockets. If you qualify for assistance under the **QMB** program, you will not have to pay:

- ☐ Medicare's hospital deductible, which is \$716 per benefit period in 1995
- ☐ The daily coinsurance charges for extended hospital and skilled nursing facility stays.
- ☐ The Medicare Medical Insurance (Part B) premium, which is \$46.10 per month in 1995.

☐ The \$100 annual Part B deductible.

☐ The 20 percent coinsurance for services covered by Medicare Part B, depending on which doctor you go to

The State would cover these Medicare cost-sharing amounts for you. You would only be responsible for paying for the various medical supplies and services not covered by Medicare, such as routine physicals, dental care, hearing aids and eyeglasses. And, if required by your State, you would also be liable for nominal cost-sharing amounts each time you went to the doctor or used other benefits that required copayments.

While the **QMB** program helps those whose income is at or below the

national poverty level, the **SLMB** program is for persons whose incomes are slightly higher than the poverty level, but not more than 20 percent higher. If you qualify for assistance under the **SLMB** program, you will not have to pay:

☐ The \$46.10 monthly Part B premium.

The State will pay the premium for you. You will, however, continue to be responsible for Medicare's deductibles, coinsurance, and for charges for health care services and medical supplies not covered by Medicare.

How Do I Qualify?

The rules may vary from State to State but, in general terms, to qualify for assistance under the **QMB** program, you must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be entitled to Medicare Part A. If you do not have Part A or do not know whether you are entitled to Part A, check with any Social Security Administration office or call 1-800-772-1213.

Most people are entitled to Part A based on their own employment or the employment of a spouse. Even if you or your spouse did not work or did not work long enough to entitle

you to Part A, your State may buy it for you.

If you are under 65, you can get Part A if you are on kidney dialysis or have undergone a kidney transplantation. You can also get Part A if you have received disability benefits from either the Social Security Administration or the Railroad Retirement Board for more than 24 months.

2. Your financial resources such as bank accounts, stocks and bonds cannot exceed \$4,000 for one person or \$6,000 for a couple. Some things—like the home you live in, one automobile, burial plots, home furnishings, personal jewelry and life insurance—usually do not count as resources.

3. Your income must be at or below the national poverty level. The **QMB** monthly income limits in 1995 are:

All States except Alaska and Hawaii
\$643 (individual) \$856 (couple)

Alaska: \$798 (individual)
\$1,065 (couple)

Hawaii: \$738 (individual)
\$985 (couple)

Income includes, but is not limited to, Social Security benefits, pensions and wages. Interest payments and dividends can also count as income.

What If My Income Is Slightly Higher Than the Poverty Level?

If you do not qualify for **QMB** assistance because your income is too high, you may be able to get help under the **SLMB** program. To qualify for **SLMB** assistance, you must meet requirements one or two listed under the previous section.

Also, your income cannot exceed the national poverty level by more than 2 percent. This means that in 1995 the **SLMB** monthly income limits are:

All states except Alaska and Hawaii:
\$767 (individual) \$1,025 (couple)

Alaska: \$954 (individual)
\$1,274 (couple)

Hawaii: \$881 (individual)
\$1,175 (couple)